One Year Limited Warranty

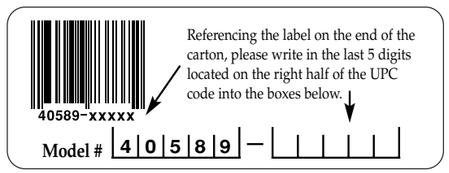
Traditions warrants this product to be free of defects in material or craftsmanship for one year from the date of purchase and will repair or replace, at its option, without charge, our product which is returned at the owner's expense to Traditions. Please enclose a full explanation of the specific problem with the returned item.

Traditions will not be responsible for damage to the finished gun or to any of its parts, as a result of careless handling, improper loading, corrosion, neglect, misuse, alteration or damage to parts. Incidental or consequential damages and those caused by improper packaging for shipping, are not covered by this warranty. Damage to metal or wood is not covered due to the inability of Traditions to control its use and storage conditions.

This warranty will remain in force unless any of the following is determined by the Traditions Customer Service Department:

1. Use of any propellant other than black powder or Pyrodex®.
2. Use of any propellant charges in excess of those recommended in these Traditions shooting instructions.
3. Modification of component parts from their original configuration as they were shipped from the factory.

Preferred Customer Warranty Registration Card



Referencing the label on the end of the carton, please write in the last 5 digits located on the right half of the UPC code into the boxes below.

Model # 4 0 5 8 9 – _ _ _ _ _

Serial # _____

Name _____ Age _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ Date of Purchase _____

Purchase Price _____ Store Name _____

Reason for your purchase ❑ Personal Use ❑ Target Shooting ❑ Hunting ❑ Other

Do you hunt with ❑ Cartridge Rifle ❑ Shotgun ❑ Handgun ❑ Bow ❑ Muzzleloader

Where purchased ❑ Specialty Gun Store ❑ General Sporting Goods Store ❑ Hardware Store ❑ Chain Store ❑ Mail Order Catalog

Which factors most influenced your purchase of a Traditions brand firearm?
❑ Previously owned a Traditions product ❑ Magazine Ad ❑ Traditions Catalog ❑ Recommendation of Salesperson ❑ Recommendation of a Friend ❑ Magazine Article ❑ Design ❑ Quality ❑ Value ❑ Other

Which gun/hunting magazines do you read?

1. _____ 2. _____

❑ Check here to receive a Traditions catalog showing muzzleloadings' largest selection of firearms and accessories.

❑ To receive a Traditions hat and catalog, send $12.00 along with your warranty registration.

NOTE: Please return this card within 15 days of purchase in order to validate your limited one year warranty.

Please complete all information above and mail to:

TRADITIONS™
PERFORMANCE MUZZLELOADING
P.O. Box 776 • Old Saybrook, CT 06475-0776

Introduction

1. This manual contains instructions, cautions and dangers for the safe use of cap & ball firearms. It is important that you read, understand and be willing to always follow them completely.
2. When properly handled, a cap & ball revolver is safe and enjoyable to use, if you follow a few basic rules.
3. There is no way to build a cap & ball revolver to absolve the user of the need to use good judgement.
4. Your cap & ball revolver should always be treated with the respect due any firearm in addition to specific cautions and dangers outlined in this manual.

Note: If after reading the instructions, cautions and dangers contained in this manual, you are not willing to accept the responsibilities involved in shooting a blackpowder revolver, return the revolver to your dealer before firing or contact Traditions, P. O. Box 776, Old Saybrook, CT 06475, Tel. 860-388-4656.

Important Safety Precautions

1. Always wear shatterproof glasses and appropriate ear protection.
2. Use black powder or Pyrodex® only.
3. Never fire a revolver unless the projectile is firmly seated against the powder charge.
4. Do not exceed recommended maximum powder charges.
5. Never lean over or point muzzle toward yourself or anyone else.
6. Treat a misfire or failure to fire as though the revolver can fire at any moment.
7. Handle your revolver with all the respect due any firearm.
8. Be sure all bystanders are behind you when firing. Flames and cap bits sometime exit to the side of the gun.
9. Never smoke or be near ignition source while loading, shooting or handling black powder or Pyrodex®.
10. Always leave one chamber unloaded. This is called the "safety chamber". Rest the hammer on the capless nipple of this empty chamber when the other chambers are loaded and awaiting to be fired.
11. Always be sure to seal the loaded chambers with Traditions Wonder Lube 1000 or Revolver Wonder Wads to prevent "chain-fires" (the simultaneous ignition of more than one chamber).
12. When aiming a blackpowder revolver, never place 'free' hand in front of cylinder. Possible injury could result in the event of a "chain-fire".
13. If a cylinder with a loaded chamber must be removed, be sure all caps (unfired and fired) have been removed from the nipples.
14. Make sure your gun is unloaded before you store it.
15. Store your gun separately from its various shooting components; in secure locked dry places well away from children.

Verifying Your Gun Is Unloaded

1. With the revolver pointed in a safe direction, place hammer in the half-cock position.
2. Rotate the cylinder and check that all the nipples are void of percussion caps. Remove any percussion caps immediately.
3. Take a wooden dowel or cleaning rod and insert one end down the barrel and into the cylinder. Mark dowel at muzzle. Be sure that the dowel has entered the chamber in line with the barrel.
4. Remove rod and lay it along outside of barrel, lining up mark at muzzle.
5. The opposite end of the rod should reach the nipple at the back of the chamber. Rotate cylinder and repeat for the remaining chambers. If the mark on the dowel does not line up properly, the gun is either loaded or obstructed and should be cleared before proceeding. This practice will assure the gun is unloaded.

Preparation Before Loading

Note: Your new revolver should be cleaned prior to loading to remove any factory oils.

1. Disassembly, based on revolver style:

- *'Colt'-style revolver disassembly:*
  a. Remove the wedge, located just forward of the cylinder by tapping it through the slot in the side of the barrel. When new, extra force will be required to remove the wedge.

Note: The small flat screw above the wedge retains the wedge from falling out completely. It does not secure the wedge in the slot.

  b. Place hammer in half-cock position (first audible 'click').
  c. Rotate the cylinder, so that the loading lever, when lowered, will hit the area between two cylinder chambers. This allows you take advantage of using the leverage of the loading lever to help in the separation of the barrel from the frame.
  d. Separate the barrel from the frame.

Note: When new, parts fit together tightly. Therefore, it may be necessary to sharply hit the front portion of the cylinder with a wooden or plastic mallet in order to separate the barrel from the frame. When doing so, hit both sides of the front of the cylinder in turn. Be certain that the frame will not fall too far when it separates from the barrel. Over time, from repeated takedowns and reassemblies, parts will become burnished (broken-in) and separate and fit together much more easily.

  e. Remove the cylinder from the cylinder pin.
  f. To reassemble, reverse sequence.

- *'Remington'-style revolver disassembly:*
  a. Partially lower loading lever. Make certain plunger does not enter a cylinder chamber.
  b. Pull or tap out the T-shaped cylinder pin located under the barrel.
  c. Place hammer in half-cock position (first audible 'click'). Rotate the cylinder out of the frame.
  d. To reassemble, reverse sequence. Note: The cylinder is custom fitted to your revolver therefore the tolerances are close. With careful manipulation and practice, this process will get easier. Do not force the cylinder into the frame. Be patient.

- *'Starr'-style revolver disassembly:*
  a. Loosen round trapped nut located on upper rear of right side of revolver.
  b. Pull out or tap to release.
  c. Tilt barrel forward.
  d. Remove cylinder by sliding it rearward.

2. Clean the interior of all cylinder chambers using cotton swab dipped in a cleaning solvent, such as Traditions Wonder Lube 1000™ Bore Cleaning Solvent.
3. Place cylinder so that the chambers face down for easy draining.
4. Run a cleaning patch soaked with solvent through the barrel.
5. Run clean, dry swabs and patches into the chambers and through the barrel, make sure they are clean.
6. During reassembly, LIGHTLY oil all moving parts and grease the grooves of the cylinder pin.

Note: If shooting is going to commence shortly, take care not to put oil inside the chambers or nipples.

Propellant

1. Black powder or Pyrodex® are the only safe propellants to be use in any cap & ball revolver.
2. The term 'black powder' does not refer to any powder black in color. Modern smokeless powders are also black in color and should never be used in a cap & ball revolver.

Danger: Use of smokeless powder in any cap & ball revolver will result in excessively high pressures and can cause serious damage to the revolver and possibly bodily injury to the shooter and bystanders.

3. Always be sure that the propellant you select is commercially manufactured black powder or Pyrodex® for use in muzzleloaders offered for sale by a reputable dealer. TAKE NO CHANCES!
4. Pyrodex® is intended to be used on the same volume basis as black powder.
5. Store propellants according to the manufacturer's instructions listed on each container. Local fire regulations should also be followed. Store securely and safely out of reach of children.

Caution: Never smoke while loading, shooting or handling propellants. Always follow the manufacturer's safety precautions as listed on the propellants' container.

Projectiles

- *Round Ball:*
  a. The recommended projectile to assure greatest accuracy and consistency from your revolver is a round ball (cast or swaged) of pure lead.
  b. See *Recommended Revolver Loads* (below) for the suitable ball diameter for a specific caliber and revolver style.

- *Conical Bullets:*
  a. Conical bullets were originally used to provide greater knock-down power.
  b. Inherently, conical bullets are not as accurate as round balls primarily because during loading they become canted and therefore enter the bore at an angle.

Note: Do not exceed the maximum charges or change powder granulation as noted in the *Recommended Revolvers Loads* chart. The proper charge for a cap & ball revolver is an efficient load, providing consistent ignition, velocity.

Note: Do NOT patch balls (or bullets), as is customary with muzzleloading rifles. Shooting patches are never used with revolvers.

Recommended Revolver Loads

Revolver caliber/make	Projectile round ball conical diameter		Propellant (grains/granulation) 3f black powder or Pyrodex® P min.	max.
.31 Remington	.315″	Round	7/3f	12/3f
	.315″	Conical	6/3f	11/3f
.36 Colt	.380″	Round	16/3f	25/3f
	.380″	Conical	12/3f	15/3f
.44 Colt .44 Remington .44 Starr	.454″	Round	22/3f	30/3f
	.454″	Conical	19/3f	25/3f
.44 Colt Walker and Dragoons	.454″	Round	25/3f	40/3f
	.454″	Conical	20/3f	35/3f

Loading and Shooting a Cap & Ball Revolver

Caution: Always keep the barrel pointed in a safe direction. Always wear suitable eye and ear protection when loading and shooting any gun.

1. Check to be sure that your revolver is unloaded (as described earlier).
2. Set the hammer at half-cock position and verify that revolver cannot be fired (the hammer cannot be moved) when trigger is pulled or the hammer is pushed.
3. With gun POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION, place a No. 10 or 11 percussion cap on the nipple of each unloaded chamber.
   a. Turn the cylinder so that a nipple aligns with the cut-out on the right side of the frame. Angle muzzle downward.
   b. It may be necessary to pinch the cap out of round to assure a snug fit on the nipple. Nipples and caps vary slightly in diameter.

Advice: Use of a capper to place the cap onto the nipple is advised. Percussion caps are sensitive to pressure and can explode under extreme finger pressure.

4. Fully cock the hammer and pull the trigger to fire the cap to dry out the base of the chamber and nipple. Repeat this procedure for all nipples to insure that each chamber is thoroughly dry.
5. Check to be sure no UNFIRED caps have been inadvertently left on the nipples. If so, fire them.
6. Place hammer at half-cock position.
7. Rotate cylinder and remove all spent caps.
8. Hold the muzzle upward. Be sure no part of the body is in front of the revolver. Using a revolver powder measure, pour a measured charge into a chamber. See loading chart. Rotate cylinder. Repeat procedure for the other chambers. Never pour powder directly from flask or manufacturers container into chambers.

Caution: Normally only five chambers of a six-shot gun are loaded. The gun is used and carried with the hammer resting on the uncapped nipple of the unloaded chamber. To do so will reduce the possibility of accidental firing .

9. Place a properly sized ball or bullet onto the opening of the chamber. The ball or conical bullet should be slightly oversized so it will not enter the chamber without pressure.

Note: If cast balls are being used, place sprue (flat surface) upward.

10. Rotate cylinder to place ball directly under loading lever plunger.
11. Using the loading lever, and apply moderate pressure to seat ball into the chamber and firmly on top of the powder.
    a. A thin ring of lead will be shaved off the ball at the opening of the chamber. This occurrence illustrates that the ball is properly fitted to the chamber and will not move off the powder during the firing of the other chambers.
    b. Be sure ball or conical bullet is firmly seated against powder. No air space should exist between ball and powder.

Danger: Firing a revolver with the ball or conical bullet off the powder may cause serious damage to the firearm and possibly injury to the shooter or bystanders.

12. Repeat this loading procedure for additional chambers deliberately leaving one empty to serve as a safety chamber.
13. Once a projectile has been seated in each of the chambers, fill the remaining portion of each loaded chamber with Traditions Wonder Lube 1000 or a Revolver Wonder Wad. The lube should be flush with the top of the opening of each chamber. The lube or Wonder Wad lubricates the bore of the barrel and keeps the blackpowder fouling soft to allow more shots between cleanings and easier cleaning at the end of a shooting session. It is also acceptable to put a Wonder Wad after the powder and before the ball.

Caution: Wonder Lube 1000 and Wonder Wads seal each chamber to reduce the possibility of a "chain fire"; when a spark from the fired chamber crosses over the front of the cylinder and causes other chambers to fire at the same time. When aiming a revolver, never place "free hand" in front of the cylinder. Possible bodily injury could result in the event of a "chain fire" (multiple chamber ignition). Use new wads each time.

14. With gun POINTED IN A SAFE DIRECTION and hammer in half-cock position, place a #10 or #11 percussion cap on the nipple of each loaded chamber. The gun is NOW LOADED!

Note: It may be necessary to pinch the cap walls out of round to get a snug fit. Caps and nipples can vary in size.

15. Pull hammer to full cock position. You are READY TO FIRE!
16. Be sure of your target, what's beyond it and the back stop before you fire.
17. FIRE!
18. After firing all loaded chambers, wait one minute to reload. This allows any remaining sparks or embers to burn out prior to reloading.
19. If a misfire or failure to fire occurs, wait at least one minute with the gun pointed at the target. After the other chambers have been fired:
    a. Place hammer in 'half-cock' position.
    b. Rotate cylinder and remove cap from nipple of the misfired chamber. Make certain the gun is always pointed in a safe direction.
    c. Push a nipple pick through the hole in the nipple into the main charge to clear away any possible obstruction.
    d. Place a new cap on the nipple and refire that chamber.
    e. If the cap ignites but the chamber still does not fire, wait one minute with gun pointed at target.

Danger: If cylinder with a loaded chamber(s) must be removed, be sure all unfired and fired caps have been removed from the nipples. It is possible for a chamber to fire even though not in the gun. This could cause serious injury to the shooter or bystanders.

    f. Place hammer in half-cock position and remove all caps.
    g. Remove cylinder from gun.
    h. Use a revolver nipple wrench, remove the nipple of the unfired chamber.
    i. Clean the nipple thoroughly and dry it completely.
    j. Push a nipple pick through nipple hole of the cylinder to loosen the powder at the rear of the chamber.
    k. Pour small amount of fresh powder into the nipple hole.
    l. Reinsert and tighten nipple.
    m. Clear away all loose powder around the outside of the cylinder.
    n. Replace cylinder in gun.
    o. Place new cap onto nipple.
    p. With gun POINTED IN SAFE DIRECTION, pull hammer to full-cock position. You are now READY TO FIRE!
    q. FIRE!

20. If the chamber still does not fire, and after all chambers have been fired, remove cylinder from the gun. Remove the nipple of the unfired chamber(s), soak cylinder in hot water to flush out the powder and push the ball or bullet out from the rear of the chamber (nipple hole end), using an aluminum, wood or brass rod, *definitely not steel*.

Cleaning and Maintenance

1. Black powder fouling is extremely corrosive and can rust the barrel and cylinder in a short time. All black powder guns must be cleaned thoroughly after the firing session is completed.
2. Completely disassemble the gun.
3. Wipe off the grips.
4. Soak all metal parts in warm water and dish detergent and wipe off the fouling, or use a brush and black powder solvent, such as bore cleaner to scrub off the fouling.
5. Rinse all the metal parts in warm water.
6. Dry all parts thoroughly
7. Apply a light rust preventative oil such as Traditions Gun Oil (A1232) to all metal parts. Lightly oil all moving parts, grease grooves of cylinder pin and reassemble. Do not apply the oil heavily, as this will contribute to additional fouling during shooting and require more cleaning between shots.

Note: *Nipple Sizes* - Revolvers come in three basic sizes. small frame such as the the Pocket Remington and Wells Fargo. Medium frame such as the Colt Army and Navy and Remington Army and large frame such as the Colt Walker and Dragoons. The small frame models have standard size nipples however, they require a nipple wrench like that of the medium frame models yet with a narrower body in order to fit into the smaller cavity in the cylinder. The medium frame models require a standard revolver nipple wrench. The larger frame revolvers, with the larger nipples, require a larger wrench with a wider opening to span the distance between the flats of the larger nipple. Check with your local retail dealer for whichever wrench you need.

Caution: Store firearms in a secure dry place with sufficient ventilation. If stored in a container it should be well ventilated. Always store firearms and all shooting components well locked and secured from children.

Important: If you sell, trade or give this revolver to another person, make sure that you give the new owner a copy of this manual. Copies are available free from Traditions.

TRADITIONS™
PERFORMANCE MUZZLELOADING

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Cap & Ball Revolver Shooting Information

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